

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of )  
)  
Günter SCHMIDT et al. ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
)  
Application No. Unassigned ) Examiner: Unassigned  
(Corresponds to PCT/GB98/02043) )  
)  
Filed: January 11, 2000 )  
)  
For: CATEGORISING NUCLEIC )  
ACID )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please first amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 9, line 1, please delete "or claim 8".

Claim 10, line 1, please delete "or claim ".

Claim 11, line 1, please delete "any of claims 5 and 8-10" and insert therefor  
--claim 5--.

Claim 12, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert therefor --claim  
1--.

Claim 13, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert therefor --claim  
1--.

Claim 16, line 1, please delete "or claim 15".

Claim 19, line 1, please delete "any of claims 14-18" and insert therefor --claim  
14--.

Claim 20, line 1, please delete "any of claims 14-18" and insert therefor --claim  
14--.

Claim 23, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert therefor --claim  
1--.

Claim 25, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert therefor --claim  
1--.

Claim 29, line 1, please delete "any of claims 26-28" and insert therefor --claim  
26--.

Claim 30, line 1, please delete "any of claims 26-29" and insert therefor --claim  
26--.

Claim 31, line 1, please delete "any of claims 26-29" and insert therefor --claim  
26--.

Claim 32, line 1, please delete "any of claims 26-31" and insert therefor --claim  
26--.

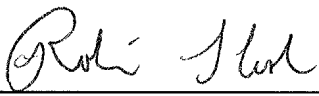
Claim 36, line 1, please delete "any of claims 26-35" and insert therefor --claim  
26--.

**REMARKS**

Favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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